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If we could be trained to properly use our imagination many of the commonplace details of work with the sick might be transformed into something inspiring. But minds are rarely characterized by both observation and imagination, observation giving accuracy in grasping surface details, while imagination goes to the heart of things and is deep, earnest, and serious, seeking the essential truth which underlies, explains, and dignifies details. The combination of these two faculties of observation and imagination is rare. She who possessed it would be mistress of the art of nursing.

OLDE CAROL

As Joseph was a-walking
He heard an angel sing,
"This night shall be the birth night
Of Christ, our heavenly King.

"His birth bed shall be neither
In housen or in hall,
Nor in the place of Paradise
But in the oxen's stall.

"He neither shall be rocked
In silver or in gold,
But in the wooden manger
That lieth on the mould.

"He neither shall be washen
With white wine nor with red,
But with the fair spring water
That on you shall be shed.

"He neither shall be clothed
In purple nor in pall,
But in the fair white linen
That usen babies all."

As Joseph was a-walking
Thus did the angel sing,
And Mary's son at midnight
Was born to be our King.

Then be you glad, good people,
At this time of the year;
And light you up your candles
For His star it shineth clear.